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71.2009.085.02082

Tributes to

Abraham Lincoln

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources providing testimonials lauding the 16th President of the United States

Writings of, and references to,

Calvin Coolidge

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.02082

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Coolidge, Calvin

WHY LINCOLON WAS GREAT

Calvin Coolidge while President of the United States, in an address told why he thought Lincoln was a great man. "Lincoln," he said, "was the commander-in-chief of the greatest armies the world had then seen. They were victorious. Yet we do not look upon him as a conqueror.

"He directed the raising and spending of vast sums of money Yet we do not think of him as a financier.

"The course which he followed cost many lives and desolated much territory. Yet we think of him, not as a destroyer, but as a restorer."

Mr. Coolidge then gives the reason why he thinks Lincolon was great and in doing so he expressed a thought that should be broadcast thruout the world today. He said:

"To me the greatness of Lincolon consisted very largely of a vision by which he saw more clearly than the men of his time the moral relationship of things. His great achievement lay in bringing the different elements of his country into a more truly moral relationship."

That undoubtedly was the Great Emancipator's contribution to his time, and his work needs to be carried on in the world today—not by a single great individual but by many, yes, by a multitude of people, who see and understand what is right in human relations and who have the courage to put that understanding into practical effect in everyday affairs.

PITTSBURG PA. PRESS
FEBRUARY 1, 1930

Coolidge, Calvin

TUESDAY, OCT. 21, 1924

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

(By President Coolidge.)

Where he trod is holy ground, yet never was a man more simply human.

* * *

He struck the fetters not only from the bodies but from the minds of men. He was a great moral force.

* * *

To me the greatness of Lincoln consisted very largely of a vision by which he saw more clearly than the men of his time the moral relationship of things.

* * *

His mortal frame has vanished, but his spirit increases with the increasing years, the richest legacy of the greatest century.

* * *

The great men of all times baffle all analysis and all description. They rise above all precedents to the heights where none may follow.

* * *

No other man in all history so understood the people, was so loved by them, or could so enable them to identify their government with themselves.

Coolidge, Calvin

The News-Sentinel, February 12, 1931

Thinking Things Over With Calvin Coolidge

BY CALVIN COOLIDGE

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 12.

NEARLY a century and a quarter has passed since Abraham Lincoln was born. No other man in our history has so touched the hearts of the people. In him they saw a reflection of themselves. They knew he sympathized with their sorrows and understood their aspirations. He surpassed all others in those attributes which men feel are common to them all. In him they find the pure and unmixed basic elements.

It is necessary to look beyond his intellect, profound as that became, for the true source of his greatness. He was endowed above most mortals with conscience. A compelling sense of obligation held him. An all embracing intellectual honesty saved him from deceiving himself. From that source he derived the unsurpassed power to express his thought in clear and simple terms. In him also was a faith that moved mountains. He declared that right makes its own might and he dared to act accordingly.

Not only because he was the leader of those who saved the Union, but because of the man himself, his humanity, his sincerity, his devotion, the whole Nation joins in observing his birthday and the whole world looks on him as a friend.

Coolidge, Calvin

COOLIDGE WILL DEDICATE MOUNT TO 4 PRESIDENTS

Faces to Look on Plains Through the Ages.

BY PHILIP KINSLEY.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Rapid City, S. D., Aug. 7.—[Special.]—On an upthrust of granite called Rushmore mountain, in the heart of the Black hills, President Coolidge next Wednesday will dedicate a national monument which marks that step in our history from colonial conservatism to continental dominion.

In this wild spot, set aside forever as state property, on a granite face lifted 400 feet above the plain, will be carved in the course of the next five years the features of Washington, the first President and founder of the nation; Jefferson, who preserved and enlarged the Union by the Louisiana purchase of which this country is a part; Lincoln, who saved the Union, and Roosevelt, the all-American President, who in him the mark of the great west.

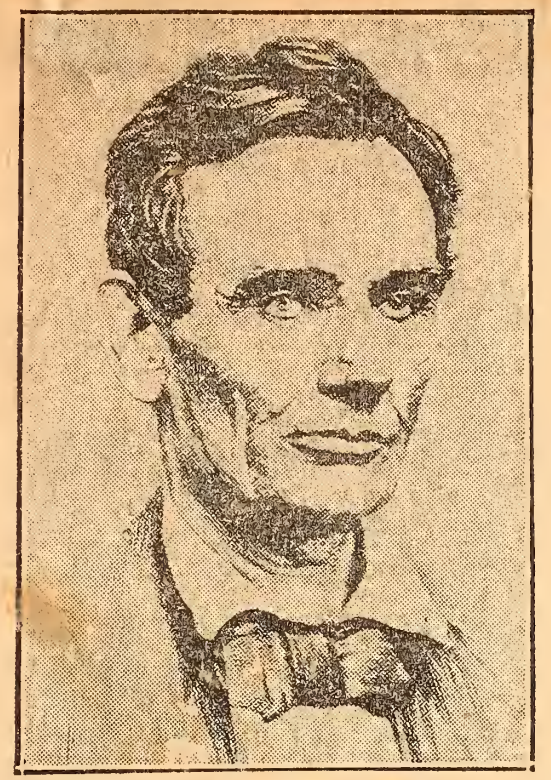
Gutzon Borglum of Stone mountain fame is the man chosen to work out the figures. He is already assembling the machinery and work will soon be started on the great stone face of the first President.

With the sculptured figures, on the opposite face of the mountain, a tablet of 80 by 120 feet will be made in the rock, giving a record of the founding of the independent states, the establishment of the republic, the purchase of the Louisiana territory, the admission of the Republic of Texas, the acquisition of California, Oregon, Florida, Alaska, and Panama.

The sculptured heads, Borglum states, will be recognizable at a distance of three miles to the naked eye. The stoie will have to be drilled, hand plugged, and machine cut by air drills.

The approximate cost of the four sculptured heads, Mr. Borglum estimates, including the installation of machinery and inscription on the great wall, is estimated at $460,000.

Coolidge, Calvin



President Coolidge's Tribute

To Abraham Lincoln

A proclamation issued January 30th, 1919, by Calvin Coolidge, then Governor of Massachusetts

FIVESCORE and ten years ago that Divine Providence, which infinite repetition has made only the more a miracle, sent into the world a new life, destined to save a nation. No star, no sign, foretold his coming. About his cradle all was poor and mean save only the source of all great men, the love of a wonderful woman. When she faded away in his tender years, from her deathbed in humble poverty she dowered her son with greatness. There can be no proper observance of a birthday which forgets the mother. Into his origin, as into his life, men long have looked and wondered. In wisdom great, but in humility greater, in justice strong, but in compassion stronger, he became a leader of men by being a follower of the truth. He overcame evil with good. His presence filled the nation. He broke the might of oppression. He restored a race to its birthright. His mortal frame has vanished, but his spirit increases with the increasing years, the richest legacy of the greatest century.

MEN show by what they worship what they are. It is no accident that before the great example of American manhood our people stand with respect and reverence. And in accordance with this sentiment our laws have provided for a formal recognition of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln; for in him is revealed our ideal, the hope of our country fulfilled.

NOW, therefore, by the authority of Massachussets, the 12th day of February is set apart as

LINCOLN DAY

and its observance recommended as befits the beneficiaries of his life and admirers of his character, in places of education and worship wherever our people meet one with another.

GIVEN at the Executive Chamber, in Boston, this 30th day of January, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and forty-third.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

The Minneapolis Morning Tribune 2/12/28

Coolidge, Calvin

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2/12/29

Ill. State Times

CALVIN COOLIDGE

Coolidge, Calvin

Coolidge's Tribute to Abraham Lincoln.

(A proclamation issued Jan. 30, 1919, by Calvin Coolidge, then governor of Massachusetts.)

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CALVIN COOLIDGE.

Coolidge, Calvin

Spirit of Lincoln Richest Legacy of U. S., Says Coolidge

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12.—(AP)—President Coolidge believes that nothing he could say in tribute to Abraham Lincoln would be better praise than the Lincoln proclamation he issued in 1918 as governor of Massachusetts.

As a result the White House, responding to requests for an expression from the President, has sent copies of the proclamation to be read tonight at Lincoln birthday meetings in various sections of the country.

In his proclamation Mr. Coolidge said:

"Five score and ten years ago that Divine Providence which infinite repetition has made only the more a miracle sent into the world a new life, destined to save a nation. No star, no sign foretold his coming. About his cradle all was poor and mean, save only the source of all great men, the love of a wonderful woman. When she faded away in his tender years from her deathbed in humble poverty she dowered her son with greatness.

"There can be no proper observance of a birthday which forgets the mother. Into his origin as into his life, men long have looked and wondered. In wisdom great, but in humility greater, in justice strong, but in compassion stronger, he became a leader of men by being a follower of the truth.

"He overcame evil with good. His presence filled the nation. He broke the might of oppression. He restored a race to its birthright. His mortal frame has varnished, but his spirit increased with the increasing years, the richest legacy of the greatest century.

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* *

65 YEARS AGO TODAY

FEBRUARY 13, 1861.

CINCINNATI.—At every town since leaving Indianapolis great crowds have greeted President Elect Lincoln with the wildest enthusiasm. Mrs. Lincoln and the Lincolns' two younger sons joined the party at Indianapolis. At the station here Mayor Bishop welcomed Mr. Lincoln in a brief and appropriate address, after which the party went to the Burnett house. There Mr. Lincoln delivered a formal speech.

Coolidge, Calvin

Lincoln Day Proclamation Written By Coolidge Termed Literary Gem

Document, Issued When Governor of Massachusetts, Is Marked by Simplicity of Language, Nobility of Thought, Similarity to the Emancipator's Own Phraseology and Ideals.

Washington, Feb. 12.—With the observance of Lincoln day there has been a great demand in Washington for copies of the Lincoln day memorial proclamation issued in 1919 by Calvin Coolidge when he was governor of Massachusetts. Many of his admirers claim that this proclamation is a literary gem, not only because of its simplicity of language, but also of the high and noble thoughts contained therein. Many have stated that the humble origin of Lincoln and Coolidge, both being poor boys on the farm, had much to do in molding their characters and gave them a better view of life as it affects all of the people, not merely a few.

The proclamation reads as follows:

"Five score and ten years ago that Divine Providence which infinite repetition has made only the more a miracle sent into the world a new life, destined to save a nation. No star, no sign, foretold his coming. About his cradle all was poor and mean save only the source of all great men, the love of a wonderful woman. When she faded away in his tender years, from her deathbed in humble poverty she dowered her son with greatness. There can be no proper observance of a birthday forgets the mother. Into his origin as into his life men long have looked and wondered. In wisdom great, but in humility greater; in justice strong, but in compassion stronger, he became a leader of men by being a follower of the truth. He overcame evil with good. His presence filled the nation. He broke the might of oppression. He restored a race to its birthright. His mortal frame has vanished, but his spirit increases with the increasing years, the richest legacy of the greatest century.

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"Now, therefore, by the authority of Massachusetts, the 12th day of February is set apart as Lincoln day and its observance recommended as befits the beneficiaries of his life and the admirers of his character, in places of education and worship wherever our people meet one with another."

This proclamation, a timely and exceedingly interesting document, has been likened to the writings of Abraham Lincoln. There is a similarity in the phrases used by both, and through the President's recent speeches and messages the fact is apparent that he has always been a close student of Lincoln's policies and a great believer in the Civil War President's executive principles.

Coolidge, Calvin

February 11, 1933 *

Calvin Coolidges's Tribute to Lincoln

Pathfinder

While governor of Massachusetts in 1919 Calvin Coolidge issued the following proclamation calling the attention of his state to Feb. 12 as Lincoln Day:

"Five score and 10 years ago that Divine Providence, which infinite repetition has made only the more a miracle, sent into the world a new life, destined to save a nation.

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Coolidge, Calvin

The President's Message to Missouri Young Republicans.

Feb 13-1925

THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON.

As the passage of the years draws us farther away from the time of Lincoln, men and women throughout the world come more and more to realize how greatly the spirit of the Emancipator has given inspiration to the finer human sentiments. Everywhere men are moved by a deeper, a more real, a more urgent sense of their duty to one another, and to the higher interests of the society of which all are members. As we look back, seeking the origins of this inspiration, our attention is more and more arrested by the figure of Abraham Lincoln. His service to humanity was not for a single generation, or for a particular race or country. It was truly a service to mankind and to all the generations that shall come after him.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

Coolidge, Calvin

Tribute Paid As Governor Is Reiterated By President

1926

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Coolidge, Calvin

Calvin Coolidges's Tribute to Lincoln

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REED

Collidge, Calvin

COOLIDGE PAYS HIGH TRIBUTE TO NATION'S DEAD AND LAUDS AMERICAN PEACE MOVEMENT

GETTYSBURG, Pa., May 30 (A.P.)—Paying the nation's tribute to its war dead, President Coolings, in his Memorial day address at Gettysburg battlefield today, said:

My Fellow Americans:

This returning Decoration day brings our entire nation in reverence and respect to the graves of our departed soldiers. Each year their number has increased, as that long blue line which stood so valiantly for the cause of the Union has grown thinner and thinner, until today it has almost vanished from earthly view.

On Fame's eternal camping-ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.

We do not come to lament, but to give thanks. With one acclaim the people bestow upon them all that divine salutation, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

To express our devotion we have come to the field of Gettysburg. It ranks as one of the great historic battle grounds of this continent. In the magnitude of its importance it compares with the Plains of Abraham, with Saratoga, and with Yorktown. It is associated with a great battle between the Union and Confederate forces and with one of the greatest addresses ever delivered by one of the greatest men ever in the world, Abraham Lincoln.

The respect in which the United States holds its service men is indicated by something more substantial than lip service. Between $6,000,000,000 and $7,000,000,000 have gone out of the United States treasury in pensions and gratuities to those who fought in that war which reached its crest upon this hard-fought field. These payments are still going on at the rate of about $200,000,000 each year. To the account of those who took part in the World war, for benefits and compensations in the short period of 10 years since its close already there has been set aside almost $5,000,000,000, and payments are going on at the rate of about $560,000,000 each year. Our people do something more for their service men and their dependents besides giving them a kind word while they live and placing a wreath on their last resting place when they are gone.

All the countries on earth in all their history, all put together, have not done as much for those who have fought in their behalf as our country alone has done in the past 50 years. Our appreciation and our devotion is evidenced by something more than tributes and monuments and yearly assemblages devoted to their praise.

While making these tremendous expenditures for the benefit of those who have seen military service, our country at the same time is making outlays in excess of those ever before made in time of peace for the purpose of national defense. Yet our military force is exceedingly moderate, our standing army is small, our national guard and reserve represent little more than a supplementary police force, when we consider our great area at home and our obligations in our outlying possessions. Our naval force necessary for the protection of our commerce, which is world-wide and not exceeded in importance by that of any other country, while of very respectable proportions, needs to be strengthened in cruisers and other auxiliary craft. Such construction is already under way and plans are maturing for the necessary increases. Our air forces are being steadily improved and enlarged.

"FORCES FOR DEFENSE ONLY"

While we are maintaining these moderate forces, we are especially anxious for the world to know that they are purely for defensive purposes and to promote general peace and tranquility. No other nation has anything which we would think of taking by force. Our restrictive immigration law is a declaration of national policy against the acquisition of the territory of any foreign people. Though we have at this time some of our forces in Haiti, Nicaragua, and China, they are in none of these places for the purpose of making war, but for the purpose of insuring a peaceful condition under which the rights of our nationals and their property may receive that protection to which they are entitled under the terms of international law. Our further purpose in Haiti and Nicaragua is to assist the peoples and governments of those two countries in establishing stability, in maintaining orderly and peaceful institutions in harmony with civilized society. We are there at their express invitation and in accordance with explicit agreements.

The world-wide interests of the United States, aside from the dictates of humanity makes us view with peculiar disfavor not only any danger of being involved in war ourselves, but any danger of war among other nations. Our investments and trade relations are such that it is almost impossible to conceive of any conflict anywhere on earth which would not affect us injuriously. The one thing that we want above all else for ourselves and for other nations is a continuance of peace. Whether so intended or not, any nations engaging in war would thereby necessarily be engaged in a course prejudicial to us.

STRENGTH NOT IN ARMY

The strength of the nation, however, is not expressed merely in terms of an army and navy. A yet greater power is derived from the happiness and contentment of the people. During recent years this has been our national position to a greater extent than ever experienced by any other people. A realization of the benefits derived from our political and economic institutions naturally results in patriotic devotion. The efforts made to establish a government free from tyranny, in which the fullest freedom consistent with order and justice would be granted, and where opportunity would be open and industry attended with the largest rewards, all have an important bearing on the subject of national defense.

But to the contentment and patriotism of the people there must be added the resources that are derived from prosperous industry, agriculture, and commerce. Good credit, which is derived from sound financial conditions, is the principal foundation of national defense. That country which has so ordered its finances as to be in a position to furnish the largest amount of money will always be in the best position to protect itself. Reduction of our national debt, permitting a reduction of taxes which stimulates private enterprise and increases our credit, is an important addition to our national strength. The industrial advance, the agricultural development, the financial resources, strengthened by wise policies in time of peace are of inestimable value in time of war.

A people which gives itself over to great armaments and military display runs great danger of creating within itself a quarrelsome war spirit. But these other elements of power, although their importance is usually ignored, by contributing to the happiness and contentment of the people, are important influences for peace. Those who seek for vast military establishments requiring enormous expenditures of money are not necessarily contributing so much to national defense as those who would apply more of our revenue to the payment of our debt and a corresponding reduction of our taxes, which would be reflected in increased prosperity. With this method of preparedness, the more we have of it the more peaceful we become.

EVER PREPARING FOR AMITY

It can be said of our country that in all its history it has never made preparations to attack any other country. Whenever it has been engaged in conflict it has entered it in such a state of unpreparedness as to demonstrate that it was not sought or even expected. While others have felt that they were forced to prepare for war, our situation has been such that we have always been preparing for peace.

It is our theory that while the army and navy are an important and necessary part, they are by no means the only agency of national security. We know that there are times when race antagonisms and national animosities break out in the world in the most unexpected way. At other times, all nations are subjected to more or less domestic tumult. In such cases, the presence of adequate armed forces is the only practical method of protection for life and property. But the world has advanced far enough now in civilization and experience, so that a great conflict is not likely to arise so much from design as from accident. It realizes that war can not be profitable. The trend of civilization is undoubtedly toward peace.

The reason for this is not far to seek. War means the application of force. Peace means the application of reason. War is complete lawlessness. Peace is the rule of law. The principal effort of civilization, after all, is to bring the world under obedience to law. The great conflict which waged upon this battlefield had for its ultimate decision the question of whether the power of the sword or the power of the constitution was to be supreme. Under republican institutions an industrious and law-abiding people will make a peaceful nation, while a lawless and riotous people will make a warlike nation. Like many other of our problems, the solution runs back to the individual and the home. If round the nation's fireside respect for authority, reverence for holy things, and obedience to parental discipline are taught, the surest foundation for peace will be laid. Where these home influences are lacking, the danger of conflict increases.

"PEOPLE TO BLAME FOR CRIME"

While the people of the United States as a whole are peaceful and law-abiding to a remarkable degree, it can not be denied that we have had sporadic outbreaks of crime, especially those of violence, which are exceedingly disturbing. Such a condition will indicate, if continued, a loosening of the moral fiber of the nation. It is very easy to cast the blame upon the police authorities, the prosecuting officers, and the courts. But if a criminal condition continues to prevail, the blame goes beyond these officials. We live under a system of popular government. Our officers reflect to a very large degree public opinion.

If the people themselves show that they are determined to have crime stamped out, there will be no lack of vigilance on the part of the police, no lack of energetic action on the part of prosecuting attorneys, and no lack of adequate penalty on the part of the courts. If the people are careless and indifferent, if they look with complacency on crime and assume a sentimental attitude toward criminals, little reform can be hoped for. If, on the other hand, the people remember that good government only can be secured by the exercise of eternal vigilance, that it is necessary constantly to resist evil tendencies, if they will take such action as is necessary to give adequate expression to their determination to terminate lawlessness and crime, it can be done.

For the purpose of promoting a reign of law in the world there is a special obligation resting upon all public officials. In our own country, and in most others, the government is one of limited powers. The purpose, as has been so well expressed, is to provide a government of law and not of men. The great majority of offices are those created by statute. Those who fill such places should be alert to ascertain the powers with which they have been invested and scrupulous to observe the law under which they have been appointed. But in addition to these there is a considerable body, executive, legislative, and judicial in its functions, which derive their authority directly from constitutional sources. None of these are all-powerful, but are held within strict limits. They have all come into existence because the people have decreed by their constitutions that they should be clothed with certain limited authority.

WARNS OF LARCENY OF POWER

The chief temptations to go beyond the bounds which the people have set arise in legislatures. In their desire to take some action which they conceive to be in the public interest, they oftentimes manifest a disposition to exceed their constitutional authority. Such action is larceny of power. Responsibility for it cannot be evaded by the weak plea to let the law be passed and the courts can decide its constitutionality. Legislators are required to qualify upon their solemn oath. That oath is not that they will leave the courts to defend and support the constitution, but that they themselves will defend and support it. When additional authority is required, they should apply to the people to amend the constitution, and not attempt to evade it or strain it by subterfuge and misconception.

The same necessity for being law abiding at home applies to our citizens when they are abroad. Our people are granted free access on the same basis as others into all the countries of the world. As a general policy they go with the encouragement of our government to engage in all kinds of enterprise. But when once they have set foot in foreign land, it is their duty to render obedience to the domestic and international law which is applicable to their proposed actions. Our government necessarily has rights over

its citizens and their property in whatevery country they may be. While we do not and cannot undertake to interfere in the application of domestic law to our nationals, unless it contravenes the rights of our government and people under international law, nevertheless the carelessness of some of our citizens abroad in violating domestic law and in assuming an arrogant attitude toward the local inhabitants tends to bring our country into disrepute and endangers the continuance of friendly relations.

ADVISES U. S. CITIZENS ABROAD

A government of the United States that failed in its duty to protect the lives and property of its citizens would be justly condemned at home and covered with derision abroad. But our citizens ought to remember that it is their duty so to conduct themselves in their relations with foreign interests that they are worthy of whatever protection they may need from their home government.

Obedience to international law, however, is a reciprocal duty. It is necessary not only that we scrupulously observe it ourselves, but that it be known that we shall require such observance from others. When we make agreements with other nations we must see that they are performed. If they are ever to be abrogated, it must be only in accordance with their terms. For us to insist at all times and places on the observance of international law is to strengthen the main foundation of peace. By our influence and by our example we can do much to discourage all acts of international lawlessness.

After all, peace is a spiritual attainment. We can set up material safeguards like fortifications and armaments, which will afford us much protection against attack, but unless we cultivate and cherish sentiments of friendship and understanding they are no guaranty of peace. One method of arriving at a better state of understanding, so that friendship may be preserved, is to provide before the event for methods of negotiating and adjudicating matters in dispute. In furtherance of the plan of this government to settle international controversies by pacific means and thereby lessen the causes of war, the United States is now negotiating new arbitration treaties and additional conciliation treaties with the principal nations of the world.

The Pan-American conference which met at Havana in January, 1928, passed a resolution calling a conference of all the American states to meet in Washington within a year to draft treaties of arbitration and conciliation. For that purpose, such a conference probably will be held in Washington the latter part of this year. The peace of the world can not, of course, be obtained by any one single act, but every treaty of arbitration and conciliation and every agreement against resorting to war adds another barrier against those conflicts which from time to time have recurred in the history of nations, and it is the hope of mankind that these repeated steps may in time establish a mode of thought and a custom of action that will do much to prevent war.

CITES WORLD HARMONY MOVES

As is well known, we are also engaf in conversations with different pov for putting peace on a new basis

Collidge, Calvin

Happiness Nation's Greatest Power, Declares Coolidge in Gettysburg Address; Lauds Action for Peace

GETTYSBURG, Pa., May 30 (A.P.)—Paying the nation's tribute to its war dead, President Coolings, in his Memorial day address at Gettysburg battlefield today, said:

My Fellow Americans:

This returning Decoration day brings our entire nation in reverence and respect to the graves of our departed soldiers. Each year their number has increased, as that long blue line which stood so valiantly for the cause of the Union has grown thinner and thinner, until today it has almost vanished from earthly view.

On Fame's eternal camping-ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.

We do not come to lament, but to give thanks. With one acclaim the people bestow upon them all that divine salutation, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

To express our devotion we have come to the field of Gettysburg. It ranks as one of the great historic battle grounds of this continent. In the magnitude of its importance it compares with the Plaine of Abraham, with Saratoga, and with Yorktown. It is associated with a great battle between the Union and Confederate forces and with one of the greatest addresses ever delivered by one of the greatest men ever in the world, Abraham Lincoln.

The respect in which the United States holds its service men is indicated by something more substantial than lip service. Between $6,000,000,000 and $7,000,000,000 have gone out of the United States treasury in pensions and gratuities to those who fought in that war which reached its crest upon this hard-fought field. Theee payments are still going on at the rate of about $200,000,000 each year. To the account of those who took part in the World war, for benefits and compensations in the short period of 10 years since its close already there has been set aside almost $5,000,000,000, and payments are going on at the rate of about $560,000,000 each year. Our people do something more for their service men and their dependents besides giving them a kind word while they live and placing a wreath on their last resting place when they are gone.

All the countries on earth in all their history, all put together, have not done as much for those who have fought in their behalf as our country alone has done in the past 50 years. Our appreciation and our devotion is evidenced by something more than tributes and monumente and yearly assemblages devoted to their praise.

While making these tremendous expenditures for the benefit of those who have seen military service, our country at the same time is making outlays in excess of those ever before made in time of peace for the purpose of national defense. Yet our military force is exceedingly moderate, our standing army is small, our national guard and reserve represent little more than a supplementary police force, when we consider our great area at home and our obligations in our outlying possessions. Our naval force necessary for the protection of our commerce, which is world-wide and not exceeded in importance by that of any other country, while of very respectable proportions, needs to be strengthened in cruisers and other auxiliary craft. Such construction is already under way and plans are maturing for the necessary increases. Our air forces are being steadily improved and enlarged.

"Forces for Defense Only"

While we are maintaining these moderate forces, we are especially anxioue for the world to know that they are purely for defensive purposes and to promote general peace and tranquility. No other nation has anything which we would think of taking by force. Our restrictive immigration law is a declaration of national policy against the acquisition of the territory of any foreign people. Though we have at this time some of our forces in Haiti, Nicaragua, and China, they are in none of these places for the purpose of making war, but for the purpose of insuring a peaceful condition under which the rights of our nationals and their property may receive that protection to which they are entitled under the terms of international law. Our further purpose in Haiti and Nicaragua is to assist the peoples and governments of those two countries in establishing stability, in maintaining orderly and peaceful institutions in harmony with civilized society. We are there at their express invitation and in accordance with explicit agreements.

The world-wide interests of the United States, aside from the dictates of humanity makes us view with peculiar disfavor not only any danger of being involved in war ourselves, but any danger of war among other nations. Our investments and trade relations are such that it is almost impossible to conceive of any conflict anywhere on earth which would not affect us injuriously. The one thing that we want above all else for ourselves and for other nations is a continuance of peace. Whether so intended or not, any nations engaging in war would thereby necessarily be engaged in a course prejudicial to us.

Strength Not in Army

The strength of the nation, however, is not expressed merely in terms of an army and navy. A yet greater power is derived from the happiness and contentment of the people. During recent years this has been our national position to a greater extent than ever experienced by any other people. A realization of the benefits derived from our political and economic institutions naturally results in patriotic devotion. The efforts made to establish a government free from tyranny, in which the fullest freedom consistent with order and justice would be granted, and where opportunity would be open and industry attended with the largest rewards, all have an important bearing on the subject of national defense.

But to the contentment and patriotism of the people there must be added the resources that are derived from prosperous industry, agriculture, and commerce. Good credit, which is derived from sound financial conditions, is the principal foundation of national defense. That country which has so ordered its finances as to be in a position to furnish the largest amount of money will always be in the best position to protect itself. Reduction of our national debt, permitting a reduction of taxes which stimulates private enterprise and increases our credit, is an important addition to our national strength. The industrial advance, the agricultural development, the financial resources, strengthened by wise policies in time of peace are of inestimable value in time of war.

A people which gives itself over to great armaments and military display runs great danger of creating within itself a quarrelsome war spirit. But these other elements of power, although their importance is usually ignored, by contributing to the happiness and contentment of the people, are important influences for peace. Those who seek for vast military establishments requiring enormous expenditures of money are not necessarily contributing so much to national defense as those who would apply more of our revenue to the payment of our debt and a corresponding reduction of our taxes, which would be reflected in increased prosperity. With this method of preparedness, the more we have of it the more peaceful we become.

Ever Preparing for Amity

It can be said of our country that in all its history it has never made preparations to attack any other country. Whenever it has been engaged in conflict it hae entered it in such a etate of unpreparedness as to demonstrate that it was not sought or even expected. While others have felt that they were forced to prepare for war, our eituation has been such that we have always been preparing for peace.

It is our theory that while the army and navy are an important and necessary part, they are by no means the only agency of national security. We know that there are times when race antagonisms and national animosities break out in the world in the most unexpected way. At other times, all nations are subjected to more or less domestic tumult. In such cases, the presence of adequate armed forces is the only practical method of protection for life and property. But the world has advanced far enough now in civilization and experience, so that a great conflict is not likely to arise so much from design as from accident. It realizes that war can not be profitable. The trend of civilization is undoubtedly toward peace.

The reason for this is not far to seek. War means the application of force. Peace means the application of reason. War is complete lawlessness. Peace is the rule of law. The principal effort of civilization, after all, is to bring the world under obedience to law. The great conflict which waged upon this battlefield had for its ultimate decision the question of whether the power of the sword or the power of the constitution was to be supreme. Under republican institutions an industrious and law-abiding people will make a peaceful nation, while a lawless and riotous people will make a warlike nation. Like many other of our problems, the solution runs back to the individual and the home. If round the nation's fireside respect for authority, reverence for holy things, and obedience to parental discipline are taught, the surest foundation for peace will be laid. Where these home influences are lacking, the danger of conflict increases.

"People to Blame for Crime"

While the people of the United States as a whole are peaceful and law-abiding to a remarkable degree, it can not be denied that we have had sporadic outbreaks of crime, especially those of violence, which are exceedingly disturbing. Such a condition will indicate, if continued, a loosening of the moral fiber of the nation. It is very easy to cast the blame upon the police authorities, the prosecuting officers, and the courts. But if a criminal condition continues to prevail, the blame goes beyond these officials. We live under a system of popular government. Our officers reflect to a very large degree public opinion.

If the people themselves ehow that they are determined to have crime stamped out, there will be no lack of vigilance on the part of the police, no lack of energetic action on the part of prosecuting attorneys, and no lack of adequate penalty on the part of the courts. If the people are carelees and indifferent, if they look with complacency on crime and assume a sentimental attitude toward criminals, little reform can be hoped for. If, on the other hand, the people remember that good government only can be secured by the exercise of eternal vigilance, that it is necessary constantly to resist evil tendencies, if they will take such action ae is necessary to give adequate expression to their determination to terminate lawlessness and crime, it can be done.

For the purpose of promoting a reign of law in the world there is a special obligation resting upon all public officials. In our own country, and in most others, the government is one of limited powers. The purpose, as has been so well expressed, is to provide a government of law and not of men. The great majority of offices are those created by statute. Those who fill such places should be alert to ascertain the powers with which they have been invested and scrupulous to observe the law under which they have been appointed. But in addition to these there is a considerable body, executive, legislative, and judicial in its functions, which derive their authority directly from constitutional sources. None of these are all-powerful, but are held within strict limits. They have all come into existence because the people have decreed by their constitutions that they should be clothed with certain limited authority.

Warns of Larceny of Power

The chief temptations to go beyond the bounds which the people have set arise in legislatures. In their desire to take some action which they conceive to be in the public interest, they oftentimes manifest a disposition to exceed their conetitutional authority. Such action is larceny of power. Responsibility for it cannot be evaded by the weak plea to let the law be passed and the courts can decide its constitutionality. Legislators are required to qualify upon their solemn oath. That oath is not that they will leave the courts to defend and support the constitution, but that they themselves will defend and support it. When additional authority is required, they should apply to the people to amend the constitution, and not attempt to evade it or strain it by subterfuge and misconception.

The same necessity for being law abiding at home applies to our citizens when they are abroad. Our people are granted free access on the same basis as othere into all the countries of the world. As a general policy they go with the encouragement of our government to engage in all kinds of enterprise. But when once they have set foot in foreign land, it is their duty to render obedience to the domestic and international law which ie applicable to their proposed actions.. Our government necessarily has rights over its citizens and their property in whatevery country they may be. While we do not and cannot undertake to interfere in the application of domestic law to our nationals, unless it contravenes the rights of our government and people under international law, nevertheless the carelessness of some of our citizens abroad in violating domestic law and in assuming an arrogant attitude toward the local inhabitants tends to bring our country into disrepute and endangers the continuance of friendly relations.

Advises U. S. Citizens Abroad

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Cites World Harmony Moves

As is well known, we are also engaged in conversations with different powers for putting peace on a new basis and making it still more permanent. In June, 1927, M. Briand, the French minister of foreign affairs, made an historic proposal to this government. He suggested that France and the United States sign a treaty condemning recourse to war and renouncing it as an instrument of national policy in their mutual relations. During the 11 months that have since elapsed, this suggeetion has been developed into one of the most impressive peace movements that the world has ever seen. The United States has accepted the principle underlying M. Briand's suggestion and has advocated its extension so as to include within the scope of the proposed treaty not only France and the United States, but also Great Britain, Germany, Italy, and Japan, and any other nations of the world that might care to join with these six powere in a common renunciation of war.

In order to facilitate discussion and to demonstrate that a treaty such as that desired by the United States could be short, simple, and straightforward, Mr. Kellogg, Secretary of State, eubmitted on April 13, 1928, for the consideration of the other interested powers, a preliminary draft of a treaty representing in a general way the form of treaty which he suggested we were prepared to conclude. This draft treaty has met with very favorable reception. Not only has the idea of a multilateral treaty for the renunciation of war been indorsed by public opinion here and abroad but the governments themselves have approached the matter with an interest and a sympathy which is most encouraging.

We have gathered to pay tribute to our soldier dead. This day is consecrated to their memory. It seems to me that the greatest honor that we can do to those who have died on the field of battle that this republic might live, is soberly pledge ourselves to bend our every effort to prevent any recurrence of war. The government of the people, by the people, for the people, which Lincoln dscribed in his immortal address, is a government of peace, not of war, and our dead will not have died in vain if, inspired by their sacrifice, we endeavor by every means within our power to prevent the shedding of human blood in the attempted settlement of international controversies. It is my earnest hope that success may crown the negotiations now in progress, and that the ideals which have inspired the French minister of foreign affairs and the secretary of state of the United States in their joint efforts to find a solution of the problem of peace may find a practical realization in the early making of a multilateral treaty limiting future resort to war.

Coolidge, Calvin

The Bookman, May, 1924

(Coolidge on Lincoln)

Presidential Utterances

CALVIN COOLIDGE writes clear, forceful prose, prose that has the rhythm of the Bible and of Lincoln's speeches. These straightforward essays and addresses gathered under the title "The Price of Freedom" (Scribner) are remarkably impressive in their collected form. I should like to quote a paragraph on Lincoln:

> He closed forever the great contest which had been waged for three-quarters of a century between the power of the States and the power of the nation. He answered for all time the question of whether the selfish interests of a part, or the greater interest of the whole should be supreme. This contest had been confined to no one locality and to no one issue. New England had turned to it when she thought it would make for her welfare. The South clung to it when she believed it was for her advantage. The National Union which Washington and Hamilton had formed, which Marshall had declared, which Webster and Jackson and Clay had defended, Abraham Lincoln saved, and, saving, made it free. He stands with those who believed in the righteous power and the just authority of a free government. He saw clearly that no free government could derive its just powers from anything less than a free people. What he saw, what he believed, when the time came he was ready to do. In all things he followed the truth to the end.

And the close of an address which I heard him deliver, as vice president, in my native village:

> When Ethan Allen and his eighty-three Green Mountain Boys stood within Fort Ticonderoga, in the dawn of that May morning, this man, some time to be charged with the darkness of infidelity, did not fail to utter the word of light when he demanded the garrison captain surrender "in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress". He there gave expression to the faith and the cause for which he and his fellow patriots ever stood ready to make the supreme sacrifice. For God and country. That faith has been justified. That cause has been prospered. Could there be any better description of the purpose which has created the city of Burlington? Could there be any firmer foundation on which its influence will stand through all eternity? The same sun is above us which lighted the morning of that day with all that it has come to mean. The same gleaming waters remain. The same shadowy mountains tower around us. The same dream city rises from the shore, now a reality. In those who shall continue to behold them, let them inspire the same spirit, the same abiding faith, the same power, through sacrifice, to minister to the same great cause. For God and country.

—*J. F.*

Coolidge on Lincoln

COOLIDGE TELLS OF LINCOLN'S AID TO STATE COLLEGES

Morrill Bill, Under Which They Were Given Land Grants, Favored and Signed by Him

NEW LIBRARY DEDICATED

Speech of the President at Brookings, S. D., Testifies to Value of Books

9-10-27

Brookings, S. D., Sept. 10 (A.P.)—President Coolidge today made the dedicatory address at the new Lincoln Memorial Library, part of the equipment of the South Dakota State College. The President, assisted by Mrs. Coolidge, laid one of the stones of an outdoor theater, to be named for the President. The degree of Bachelor of Science was conferred on President Coolidge by the college. The President spoke as follows:

"My Fellow Countrymen—We are met here to dedicate another temple to the cause of learning. To reach their full effect the buildings used for educational purposes must assume the character of temples. One of our learned men has told us that 'We do not go where admiration leads the way.' Unless we approach our places of learning in that spirit we shall never receive their full benefits.

"The South Dakota State College gives every appearance of having reached in a full measure this position. We can usually measure both the desire and the appreciation that exists for the advantages of this life by the sacrifices we are willing to make to secure them. It is evident that in South Dakota this determination has a very strong hold upon the people. While this was to be expected, for this is yet a land of pioneers who have come here in response to a desire to improve their condition, yet the progress they have made is none the less astounding. It is true, of course, that although this is a comparatively new community, it has been nurtured under all the advantages of modern science and invention, which did not accrue to the older parts of our country in their early beginnings.

"Yet when we remember that South Dakota has been admitted to Statehood less than forty years, that anything like a real settlement has been going on less than seventy-five years, that during this short period many thriving cities have arisen, long lines of transportation have been built, an adequate educational system has been perfected, a body of laws has been developed, a vast agricultural empire has arisen, a method of local and State government has been built up, the administration of justice has been made effective, and, in short, a great American Commonwealth has been established, we cannot fail to stand in respectful admiration for a people whose courage and ability have been crowned with such remarkable accomplishments. But this is only typical of the growth and progress of the West, and the West is only typical of the growth and progress of America.

Growth of the State College

"Perhaps there is no better example of this wonderful development than your own State college. It was opened forty-three years ago today as a preparatory school with thirty-five students. Since that time it has reached the proportions of a college of agriculture and mechanic arts, with an enrollment of about 1400 students. During this short interval it has attained a rank as an educational institution in its field scarcely less than that which was secured by some of our Eastern universities after nearly two centuries of existence. It is a mighty inspiration to realize that American communities have a capacity which is demonstrated by their record for the accomplishment of such wonderful works.

"In communities such as these the cause of education has never failed to hold a very high place. Of course, the people in their daily life would give their first thought to religious worship, but in the affairs of Government education has come to be predominant. The importance attached to it is signified by the large portion of public money which is devoted to its support. In the country at large it is probable that well toward three-fifths of all local taxes are expended directly or indirectly for education. We hear very little criticism of the amount of money that is used for this purpose, but it is undoubtedly well from time to time to make a careful investigation of this very large item, not so much to attempt to reduce it as to make certain that all wastes are eliminated and that the community is securing full value in return for its large outlays.

Cannot Neglect the People's Education

"No progressive community can afford to neglect the education of its people. Considered on the basis of economics their development depends very largely on the scientific learning and skill with which their efforts are directed. The day of the rule of thumb is past. The day of the exact application of scientific knowledge by persons technically trained in all the affairs of life has come. Any neglect in this direction would mean at once stagnation, decay and failure. It is impossible for any community to hold its place in modern society unless it is fully equipped in the educational field of arts and sciences and research. This solid and substantial institution is incontrovertible evidence of the devotion of South Dakota to these principles.

"There has been a long-standing controversy over the question of what constitutes an institution of learning, especially a college. Some contend it is the trustees, others the faculty, still others the student body. I suspect that it is the combination of all these, and the better the quality of each the better the institution will be. But there is yet another element which has come to be all-important in modern scholarship. That is the library. While the teacher is the instrumentality and the directing force, to a very large extent, for the training of youth and the diffusion of knowledge, books are, after all, the repository of learning. Without them the wide scope of modern scholarship would of course be entirely impossible, and no college would feel adequately equipped for the best service which was not provided with a well-chosen and extensive library.

Books are the Hope of the Future

"Books contain not only the priceless records of the past, but they are to a large extent the hope of the future. By means of them we have revealed to us the inventions and discoveries of science, the beauties of poetry and the imperishable thoughts of the master minds of all the ages. A liberal education may begin in the classroom, but it will scarcely rise above mediocrity unless it is extended into the library and by that means broadened into the practical experience of life.

"We are dedicating this library with its inestimable treasure of learning to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. It is well known that in his early life he had little opportunity to come in contact with books. He had almost nothing that could be dignified as schooling. While it is true that there is a very large field of education that lies entirely outside of books, yet books are the foundation of all education. It is said that Lincoln walked miles to borrow a book, and the few which he had, he studied until he had mastered them. No one could have become the great master of English which he was, the author of the Gettysburg Address, the Emancipation Proclamation and the second inaugural address, without a profound acquaintance with many books. His place merely in the realm of literature is such that it would be eminently fitting to dedicate any library to his memory. But there is a special reason for placing his name on the library of one of the land-grant colleges of our States.

Lincoln's Agricultural Education

"This great President had a profound interest not only in education, but in agricultural education. He delivered an address in 1859 before the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society in which he said, 'Free labor insists on universal education.' In the same address he then set out his belief in what has come to be known as industrial education, saying that 'Heads and hands should cooperate as friends,' and expressed his opinion that this should be applied to the tillers of the soil by declaring that 'No other human occupation opens so wide a field for the profitable and agreeable combination of labor with cultivated thought as agriculture.' He also declared his belief in scientific efficiency by adding, 'The thought recurs that education—cultivated thought—can be best combined with agricultural labor, or any labor, on the principle of thorough work.'

Here was a man who had been brought up under surroundings where the tilling of the soil was carried on by methods which had made no advance for two thousand years. In fact, the husbandman of the days of Lincoln's boyhood was the husbandman of the days of Abraham. The great change came with the application of machinery. When Lincoln was speaking, this was almost entirely of the horsedrawn variety, but the steam engine was coming into more diversified use and some attempt had been made to use it for plowing. The general application of chemistry to soil production had scarcely been applied to the farm. The fact that in those surroundings and under those conditions he was able to vision agriculture as one of the learned professions is another of the many indications of his supreme greatness.

Not Mere Platitudinous Oratory

In the case of Lincoln perhaps it is unnecessary to say that this was no mere figure of rhetoric intended only to serve the purpose of platitudinous oratory, but the expression of a sound and mature conviction which he believed to be practical, and, should occasion offer, one which he would attempt to put into operation. The opportunity came to him sooner than he may have expected. During the administration of President Buchanan the Congress had passed a bill providing for a grant of land in the several States to establish educational institutions in agriculture and the mechanic arts. This bill had been vetoed. It is said that Jonathan B. Turner was the author of this measure, and that before he was nominated Lincoln had told him that if he were chosen President the proposal would have his approval. Representative Morrill of Vermont, later sen-

ator for many years, fathered the bill in the Congress and it bears his name. It was passed and signed by President Lincoln on July 2, 1862. Under its provisions 30,000 acres of public land for each of their senators and representatives in the Congress were given to each State to be used for the support of a college of agricuture and mechanic arts. Under the terms of this law the States have established these institutions, which in the past fifty years have played such an important part in the agricultural life of our country.

"These grants of land have been greatly supplemented by direct appropriations from the National Treasury, until under laws now in existence the annual appropriations made by the Congress for this purpose run into millions of dollars. All of this is the realization of the vision of Abraham Lincoln, which may have come to him as he rode the circuit over the prairies of Illinois, or as he went up and down the State in the conduct of political campaigns. Its material and spiritual effect upon the well-being of our country is beyond estimation.

Remember Lincoln as the Emancipator

"We should all of us remember Lincoln as the great emancipator, the President who guided the Nation through four years of internal conflict, who demonstrated beyond future question the national quality of our institutions and the indestructibility of our Union, who removed forever from our soil the stain of human slavery, and who possessed a God-given insight into the hearts of the American people. But these elements of his greatness should not be permitted to eclipse the mighty service which he rendered to the cause of vocational education by his advocacy and approval of the measure which established what are usually referred to as our State agricultural colleges. It has been under their inspiration that the amount of production for each person employed has been so highly increased and the productivity of the soil so greatly stimulated. They created a vast agricultural empire, lying between the Alleghenies and the Rockies, which has furnished an increasing food supply to meet the demands of our growing population. So many and so varying elements went into the winning of the great World War that much caution should be exercised in assigning to any one of them a decisive influence. But I think it is entirely within reason to say that without the supplies that came from the American farms it is impossible to see how the war could have been won. Those supplies could never have been furnished without the capacity for production which is generally traceable to the influence of the American agricultural colleges. The hand of Abraham Lincoln reached over the battle fields of France and was one of the decisive factors in turning the scale of victory.

Country Comparatively Young

"But these colleges are important not only because of the economic results which have accrued from them but even more because of their spiritual value. They are of great benefit in the domain of land and the various products of the soil, but in the domain of thought they have an even more important influence. Our whole country is yet comparatively young. We have been driven by necessity to giving a great deal of attention to subduing the forces of nature. It has been necessary to create anew on this continent all of the instruments of civilization. We have had our cities to build, our highways, our railroads, and our canals to lay out, our mines and manufacturing to put into operation, our banking and commerce, as well as our agriculture, to organize, and our political and our social problems to solve. All of these have made necessary a great supply of material resources for their creation and support.

"We have been excessively busy seeking for information that could be turned to practical advantage in the matter of dollars and cents, rather than for that wisdom which would guide us through eternity. Our higher educational institutions have turned their thoughts especially to the sciences, and our secondary schools to vocational training. How important these are in my estimation will appear from what I have already said. How poor and weak and generally ineffective we should be without these advantages can be at once seen by the most casual observation of those nations among which they have been neglected.

"This is by no means all that is to be expected from American education and American institutions. I can not conceive that the object of Abraham Lincoln was merely to instruct men how to raise more corn, to feed more hogs, to get more money, to buy more land, and so on in the expanding circle, as the story goes. Of course, he wanted to teach men to raise more corn, but his main object must have been to raise better men. We come back to the query that is contained in the concentrated wisdom of the ages, 'What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?'

Must Be Real Temples

"All of our science and all of our arts will never be the means for the true advancement of our Nation, will never remove us from the sphere of the superficial and the cynical, will never give us a civilization and a culture of any worthy and lasting importance unless we are able to see in them the outward manifestation of a spiritual reality. Unless our halls of learning are real temples which are to be approached by our youth in an attitude of reverence, consecrated by worship of the truth, they will all end in a delusion. The information that is acquired in them will simply provide a greater capacity for evil. Our institutions of learning must be dedicated to a higher purpose. The life of our Nation must rise to a higher realm.

"There is something more in learning and something more in life than a mere knowledge of science, a mere acquisition of wealth, a mere striving for place and power. Our colleges will fail in their duty to their students unless they are able to inspire them with a broader understanding of the spiritual meaning of science, of literature, and of the arts. Their graduates will go out into life poorly equipped to meet the problems of existence, to fall an easy prey to dissatisfaction and despair. Many of our older universities were founded by pious hands at great sacrifice for the express purpose of training men for the ministry to carry light to the people on the problems of life. Unless our college graduates are inspired with these ideals, our colleges have failed in their most important function and our people will be lacking in true culture. Abraham Lincoln, who was the most spiritual of our Presidents, had a true appreciation of this principle.

Cultivate Physical and Moral Worlds

"In closing the address to which I have referred he expressed his belief that—

> '. . . by the best cultivation of the physical world beneath and around us and the intellectual and moral world within us we shall secure an individual social and political prosperity and happiness whose course shall be onward and upward, and which, while the earth endures, shall not pass away.'

"While he did not fail to place a proper emphasis on the cultivation of the physical world around us, he thoroughly understood that this must be supplemented by a cultivation of the intellectual and moral world within us. The human soul will always rebel at any attempt to confine it to the physical world. Its dwelling place is in the intellectual and moral world. It is into that realm that all true education should lead. Unless our scholarship, however brilliant, is to be barren and sterile, leading toward pessimism, more emphasis must be given to the development of our moral power. Our colleges must teach not only science but character. We must maintain a stronger, firmer grasp on the principle declared in the Psalms of David and re-echoed in the Proverbs of his son Solomon, that 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.' "

Tribute to Abraham Lincoln

A proclamation issued January 30th, 1919, by Calvin Coolidge, then Governor of Massachusetts.

FIVE SCORE and ten years ago that Divine Providence, which infinite repetition has made only the more a miracle, sent into the world a new life, destined to save a nation. No star, no sigh, foretold his coming. About his cradle all was poor and mean save only the source of all great men, the love of a wonderful woman. When she faded away in his tender years, from her deathbed in humble poverty she dowered her son with greatness. There can be no proper observance of a birthday which forgets the mother. Into his origin, as into his life, men long have looked and wondered. In wisdom great, but in humility greater, in justice strong, but in compassion stronger, he became a leader of men by being a follower of the truth. He overcame evil with good. His presence filled the Nation. He broke the might of oppression. He restored a race to its birthright. His mortal frame has vanished, but his spirit increases with the increasing years, the richest legacy of the greatest century.

Men show by what they worship what they are. It is no accident that before the great example of American manhood our people stand with respect and reverence. And in accordance with this sentiment our laws have provided for a formal recognition of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln; for in him is revealed our ideal, the hope of our country fulfilled.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

LINCOLN AND THE PEOPLE

HE BELIEVED THEM REAL SUPREME COURT.

Ind News, 2-12-26

The dominant note in Abraham Lincoln, heard more clearly as we are removed from the crash of his time, is his belief in that vast, spiritual entity we call the people. He meant all the people.

That they knew really better what to do in common affairs every day and in the great crises.

That they are wiser than any statesman who presumes to lead them, can rule themselves better than any king can rule them, have more sound sense than any philosopher who would teach them, and are better than any religious sect that would uplift them.

Believing in the people is like believing in God; many talk of it, but few do it.

And yet it is the people that most surely work justice in the end. No judgment is so right and true as the judgment of mankind.

It is the people who finally condemned human slavery, gladiatorial games, trial by torture, and the burning of witches. And what the people settle is settled forever. Their decision, issued from the august throne of time, is never reversed. Great reforms never turn back.

The people may be vain, fickle and foolish at times, but their common sense never wholly leaves them, their heart is never corrupt. Any appeal to them must be just. They are close to God.

No program of cruelty or selfish privilege can ever carry with them permanently. By and by it is the lofty ideal they follow, the noble purpose they understand.

The creed of Lincoln and his kind of democracy is the homely one: "You can fool some of the people all of the time, and you can fool all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time."

Lincoln's ear was always at the breast of the people. He heard their heart. He sensed their will by the psychic skill of faith. He did not know; he divined. His conclusion was not the output of a logic mill in his head; it was a pointing of the compass within his heart.

He felt the people because he was of them. He had struggled up through their privations, had shared their longings, had battled with their limitations. And when he reached his place of power, and stood to command as the ruler of a mighty nation, he was no royal stranger, no superman, but wholly human, of the people still, bone of their bone. And he regarded the people as the true Supreme court of the land.

If any man despises the people, sneers at them, holds himself above them, withdraws from them, and does any otherwise than love them and believe in them, he has passed sentence upon his own self as an egotist.

For the people are wholesome as is the sunshine, or the wide sea, or the mountains. They are more deeply moral than any saint or church. They are utterly incorruptible.

And in Lincoln we see the man who believed this as saints believed in God.

FRANK CRANE.

[Copyright by Frank Crane.]

WHAT LINCOLN TAUGHT

HIS LESSON THAT PATIENCE IS SUPREME.

Abraham Lincoln has taught the rest of humankind many lessons. He dealt the deathblow to the institution of slavery in America and he preserved the United States that it might offer to his posterity the noblest experiment in democratic government the world has ever seen.

Lincoln gained immortality by his statesmanship. Lincoln won immortality by his valiance.

But Abraham Lincoln did more for all of us than even that. He taught us the supremacy of patience. For patience is supreme in the art of living.

There is a granitelike calm in the face of Lincoln. Men say it was there in life. The greatest sculptors have caught it in death.

And that deep serenity on the face of this man of destiny was not the serenity of sadness or cynicism. It was not put there by bitterness—though Lincoln had much to make him bitter.

It was the serenity of patience.

Lincoln was the great example of both repression and expression. He "let himself go," but he let himself go with high courage straight into the heart of a holy cause.

But faced by the cruel arrows of thousands who thought he was either malicious or crazy, faced by the even harder criticism of friends who could not understand him, there settled upon him the great repression. And in silence he rose above annoyance and irritability and insult.

He became for all time the sublime figure of Patience in a rampant world.

JOHN CARLYLE.

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Ideals of a True American.

During a week devoted to the study and application of American ideals one cannot, of course, contemplate a better exemplar of those ideals than Abraham Lincoln. While it is true, as David Lloyd George once said, that Lincoln "belongs to mankind, to all lands and all ages," it is equally true that his life and work afford an inspiring illustration of unswerving fidelity to principles and ideas distinctively American.

Lincoln's influence continues to grow instead of diminishing, because the ideals that guided him have survived the particular issues of his critical period. To-day there is no question of slavery, or of the preservation of the union or of national reconstruction and reconciliation. But there are many vital questions the solution of which demands the mental and moral qualities possessed by Lincoln and the standards of political and professional conduct to which he steadfastly adhered in public and private life.

There were times when Lincoln felt the pathetic futility of words. To that acute sense of his is ascribed the brevity of his incomparable Gettysburg speech. But whenever Lincoln spoke he spoke simply, sincerely and courageously. Dishonest and demagogical tricks were alien and repugnant to his nature. He believed in the power of truth and in the spontaneous popular response to righteousness. He was inflexible where principle was involved, but free from vanity, intolerance and egotism. He was tender, humble and reverent, but his charity never led him to sacrifice duty to expediency.

One of the finest tributes to Lincoln is found in a recent biography of Edward Everett, orator and statesman. Everett wrote thus about Lincoln at a time when many assailed or belittled him: "Lincoln is one of the most laborious and indefatigable men in the country, and that he has been able to sustain himself under as great a load of care as was ever laid upon the head or heart of a living being is in no small degree owing to the fact that vindictive and angry passions form no part of his nature, and that a kindly and playful spirit mingles its sweetness with the austere cup of public duty."

That rare combination of traits is not a product of art or education. Nevertheless education, discipline, reflection and conscientious self-criticism are capable of improving human conduct and making any American a worthy follower of Lincoln and a consistent champion of American ideals in political, social and economic affairs.

In introducing Dr. Bryan, President Ashby briefly discussed the influence of Indiana on Abraham Lincoln's character. "We honor ourselves when we pay homage to Lincoln," he said. "He was an Indiana product more than is generally conceded. This state has never been given proper recognition for its influence on Lincoln. He spent his life here from the time he was 7 years old until he was 21 years old. I believe Lincoln was more an Indiana man than anything else and I believe he drew from Indiana his greatest illustrations and many of his best attributes of character."

SAYS DEMOCRACY OF LINCOLN HAS STRUGGLED AHEAD

Ind Star
2-12-27

President of I. U. Addresses Members of Bar Associatoin.

Democracy, the kind for which Abraham Lincoln stood, has its fight to make in America as well as in Russia and Italy, Dr. William Lowe Bryan, president of Indiana university, told members of the Indianapolis Bar Association at a Lincoln memorial meeting in the Columbia Club last evening.

Dr. Bryan discussed Lincoln as a great representative of democracy, told of his gentle, yet firm manner, related incidents in his life to show these characteristics and outlined what he believed were Lincoln's views of a democracy.

"There has been a great deal said about democracy in the last 150 years," Dr. Bryan said. "But since the late war has closed we see a most astounding revolt against democracy —in Russia, Italy and Spain.

"In this country writers are producing novels, plays and magazine articles, sometimes holding democracy up to ridicule. Democracy has its fight to make in America as well as in Russia with its sovietism and Italy and Spain with dictators."

Dr. Bryan defined democracy as a social system under which every individual has the fullest possible participation in the labor and pains as well as the joys of life. While one class has the most of the one and the least of the other, we have something besides real democracy, he said.

WILL IMPROVE SOCIETY.

"I believe that when we have a society that recognizes the essential value of every man and each has his chance to live, enjoy life and work, we will have a society such as that contemplated by Jesus of Nazareth." he said.

Lincoln, he said, was the greatest man who lived in the world in his century and perhaps for a much longer period. "Men, not only in America, I believe, but throughout the world, would agree with that statement," he asserted.

The speaker warned his hearers against two kinds of writers and speakers who deal with national heroes, those who set them up as utterly faultless and those who can find no good or heroic qualities whatever in them. "Ever since the war war we have had writers who try to tear down and discredit our national characters," he said. "However much we love them, though, our national characters must be studied judiciously and critically."

Dr. Bryan was introduced by Samuel Ashby, president of the association. Before Dr. Bryan's address, the association went on record as opposed to two bills contemplated for introduction in the Legislature which affect Marion county. One would make possible the sale of part of the Courthouse grounds. The other would make judges of the Municipal courts elective instead of appointive by the Governor. Lawrence B. Davis, ex-president of the association, called attention to the bills.

Coolidge, Calvin

February 11, 1933 *

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Coolidge, Calvin

THE FRIEND OF MAN

A superb eulogy of the man born in direst poverty 122 years ago today will be found in another column of this issue of the Post. It was penned by one of his successors in the highest office and is, in the humble opinion of this newspaper, one of the finest of the writings of Calvin Coolidge. The Post hopes that none of its readers will fail to read it.

Abraham Lincoln looms larger as the years pass. It is nearly 66 years since he died, but as the days pass he becomes greater. To him many today accord the title of The Greatest American. In simple grandeur he towers so high on our horizon that even the majestic figure of Washington does not precede him in national esteem. Feeble attempts to besmirch his fame, to belittle his splendid character and attributes, simply serve to emphasize more completely his immortal worth.

"The whole world looks upon him as a friend," writes Mr. Coolidge. To that pregnant tribute, nothing can well be added.

Boston Post
Feb. 12, 1931.

Collidge, Calvin - Tribute to Lincoln

Mr. Coolidge's Lincoln Tribute Read to Scouts

President Extols Mother of Civil War Executive in Special Message to Boys at N. Y. U. Memorial

Smith Also Pays Homage

2/13/28

Many Phases of Emancipator'sLifeTaken as Sermon Topics in City's Pulpits

N. Y. Herald Tribune

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President Coolidge, in a special message read at the memorial service by the Boy Scouts at the Hall of Fame, New York University, took the occasion to honor Nancy Hanks Lincoln, the war President's mother.

Message Read at N. Y. U.

Mr. Coolidge's message, read by Professor J. Edmund Woodman, of N. Y. U., to about 200 persons who braved the cold to witness the laying of a wreath at the Lincoln bust, was as follows:

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Governor Sends Message

Professor Woodman also read the following message from Governor Smith:

"Through you I am glad to send sincere and hearty greetings to the Boy Scouts present at the Lincoln Memorial services. They are to be congratulated on the spirit shown in joining together on the occasion to do honor to one who has always been a shining example of all that stands for America and Americanism and who has contributed so much to the history of our country. A study of his life by the Scouts, our future citizens, will inspire them with that patriotism which goes to make real Americans."

Scout Arthur Jacobson of Troop 272, under the auspices of which the services were held, placed the wreath of evergreens on the bust. Speakers included Chancellor Elmer Ellsworth Brown of N. Y. U.; Mrs. William Cummings Story, honorary president general of the D. A. R.; O. P. Lamb, of "Boy's Life"; Major A. P. Simmonds, liaison officer to the Secretary of War; Captain Wallace E. Hackett, of the military science department, N. Y. U., and Major Arthur W. Proctor, of the Boy Scout Foundation. The ceremony also commemorated the eighteenth anniversary of the Boy Scouts. The N. Y. U. Band furnished music.

About 250 persons attended the Lincoln Birthday program at the Roosevelt Memorial House, 128 East Twentieth Street, at which Mrs. Henry A. Wise Wood presided. Professor John W. Wetzel of Columbia University and the Union Theological Seminary was the principal speaker, tracing in his lecture the effect upon American independence and liberty of the work of Washington, Roosevelt and Lincoln. Miss Agnes Ketchum gave a piano solo. At the conclusion of the lecture motion pictures of Roosevelt at Sagamore Hill were shown.

Services in Union Square

The Lincoln Circle Ladies of the G. A. R. held services in the afternoon at the statue of Lincoln in Union Square. The alumni of Cooper Union, where Lincoln made his famous speech before his first nomination, held a Lincoln dinner last night with R. Fulton Cutting and John C. Riedel as speakers

A portrait of Lincoln will be unveiled this afternoon in the lobby of the Hotel Lincoln, Eighth Avenue and Forty-fourth Street, when the hotel is formally opened, with a program of patriotic exercises. Wade H. Cooper, president of the Lincoln National Memorial Association, is to speak.

The Lincoln Day dinner of the National Republican Club will be held tonight at the Waldorf. At noon the New York State Women's Republican Club will hold a Lincoln Birthday luncheon at the Plaza.

Business houses, banks and the exchanges are closed to-day. There will be only one delivery of mail.

Coolidge, Calvin

Coolidge's Tribute to Lincoln When Governor of Massachusetts

A Proclamation in Nineteen Nineteen.

Bd Stat Journal 2-12-23

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Now, therefore, by the authority of Massachusetts, the twelfth of February is set apart as LINCOLN DAY and its observance recommended as befits the beneficiaries of his life and the admirers of his character, in places of education and worship wherever our people meet one with anothr.

Coolidge, President Calvin

February 11, 1933 *

Calvin Coolidges's Tribute to Lincoln

"The Pathfinder"

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BL

Lincoln—and Coolidge

EVERY year, on this day, it is desirable that Americans should turn aside momentarily from their daily preoccupations to contemplate the life of Abraham Lincoln. On this date, in 1809, a babe was born in a log cabin in the backwoods of Kentucky. The child grew up in poverty and obscurity. As a boy he was strong physically and alert mentally, extremely eager to acquire an education and better his condition. He attracted notice while a young man on account of his sterling character and his great height and strength. He became a lawyer, was elected to Congress, and became more and more active in the public affairs of his time.

Lincoln's ruggedly honest nature impressed men; his ability made room for him; and his environment was such as to thrust him forward as the champion of the Union in its impending struggle over the slavery question. He was elected President by the new Republican party. He was burdened with the weight of responsibility for directing the government at the most critical period of its history. His temperament and constitution were such as to enable him to carry the load. He developed qualities which seemed to have been divinely combined for the purpose of saving this Union. He was compassionate, but firm; magnanimous, but unrelenting in pursuit of the nation's enemies; cunning in penetrating men's motives, but tolerant when the nation could afford to be tolerant; tenacious unto death in pursuing his chief purpose, but generous to a fault in minor matters; impulsive of heart, but also calculating of brain; deliberate in planning, but lightning-like in execution; confident of the accuracy of his own judgment, but willing to listen to suggestions; absolute master of his cabinet, but unruffled when he detected petty obstruction and detraction.

With patience, persistence and wisdom, through days that were thick with disaster, Lincoln piloted the ship of state to the point where it was safe. Then, while he was planning to "bind up the nation's wounds," assassins were planning to murder him, and on the night of April 14, 1865, he was shot down. He died the next morning. The history of the United States consists of Lincoln's acts, and undoubtedly the unhappy events succeeding his death would not have occurred if his personality had been bearing upon the situation.

Lincoln gave his devotion to the Union, and his life to the country. He lived much of his life in poverty, devoted all of his life to arduous toil, and was sent to his God without warning. But his soul was clean and ready for the Taskmaster's eye. The pleasures of life could not be deeply enjoyed by Abraham Lincoln. The Presidency meant for him only superadded worry and dreadful responsibility. He snatched a few moments of mirth sometimes from the gloom of daily duties, and managed to keep his temper sane and sweet in spite of harassing cares.

Subtle of intellect, simple of purpose and speech, frugal by stern necessity and habit, sustained by an unfaltering trust in Almighty God, this American unconsciously shaped his life for immortal achievements. He became the soul of the Union, the personification of the Nation's will, and the medium through which Providence made sure that government of the people, by the people, for the people, should not perish from the earth.

Millions of Americans—indeed, all of them—believe that popular government is the hope of the human race. They believe that mankind will not emerge from barbarism without liberty, and that liberty is not possible unless governments are based upon the consent of the governed. Hence, the American people believe that Abraham Lincoln, by saving this Union, did more than any other human being has ever done to promote liberty among all mankind.

Abraham Lincoln was the first President ever elected by the Republican party. That party constitutes one-half of the population of the United States, and probably more. It has had an honorable record, and the Presidents who have been elected by Republican votes have endeavored to be worthy of the honor of serving as successors of Abraham Lincoln.

There is now in the White House a party successor of Abraham Lincoln. Calvin Coolidge has some of the traits of Lincoln. He is deliberate in planning and swift in execution. He is proud of the Republican party. He believes that it deserves to be trusted with the conduct of the government. It can be trusted only because it is honorable. For that reason he would lash from the party any man who dishonored it. But he is more than a Republican. He is responsible to all of the people, not merely to Republicans. He is confronted with revelations which have created great excitement and induced the Senate to make demands upon him for hasty action. The public is indignant and is demanding the punishment of all persons found guilty of crime.

In times of greater stress Abraham Lincoln remained calm and moved step by step toward the execution of the law, without fear or favor. President Coolidge may be depended upon to do likewise. All that can animate an American to pursue the path of honor and justice is operating upon the heart and brain of President Coolidge. He will not be found wanting. The people can trust Lincoln's successor to execute the laws.

Washington Post 2. 12. 1924

Mr. Coolidge's Lincoln Tribute Read to Scouts

N. Y. Tribune

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Coolidge, Pres. Calvin

Lincoln's Life.

Whenever men look upon his life (Lincoln's), they are filled with a new wonder. About him there was never any needless thing. No useless burdens held him back. No wilderness of tangled ideas bewildered his vision. For him the outward show of the world was cast aside that he might be a larger partaker of reality.

His cradle was bare, but above it was the precious canopy of the love of a gentle mother. When she was borne away in his early boyhood, he had learned the great lesson that all this world is mortal. From his youth he knew that anguish is the common lot of mankind. In his rearing there was no false art. Like the strengthening of his body, the strengthening of his mind came from great nature.—Calvin Coolidge.

Coolidge, Calvin

Pathfinder

February 11, 1933

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Coolidge, Calvin

1'e' Tribuler 270

Calvin Coolidge Says:

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NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Nearly a century and a quarter has passed since Abraham Lincoln was born. No other man in our history has so touched the heart of the people. In him they saw a reflection of themselves. They knew he sympathized with their sorrows and understood their aspirations. He surpassed all others in those attributes which men feel are common to them all. In him they find the pure and unmixed basic elements.

It is necessary to look beyond his intellect, profound as that became, for the true source of his greatness. He was endowed above most mortals with conscience. A compelling sense of obligation held him. An all embracing intellectual honesty saved him from deceiving himself. From that source he derived the unsurpassed power to express his thought in clear and simple terms. In him also was a faith that moved mountains. He declared that right makes its own might and he dared to act accordingly.

Not only because he was the leader of those who saved the Union, but because of the man himself, his humanity, his sincerity, his devotion, the whole nation joins in observing his birthday and the whole world looks on him as a friend.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

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